DATING: DON'T CELL YOURSELF SHORT

DROP THE DUMB SMARTPHONE AND LIVE IN THE NOW. PAGE 16

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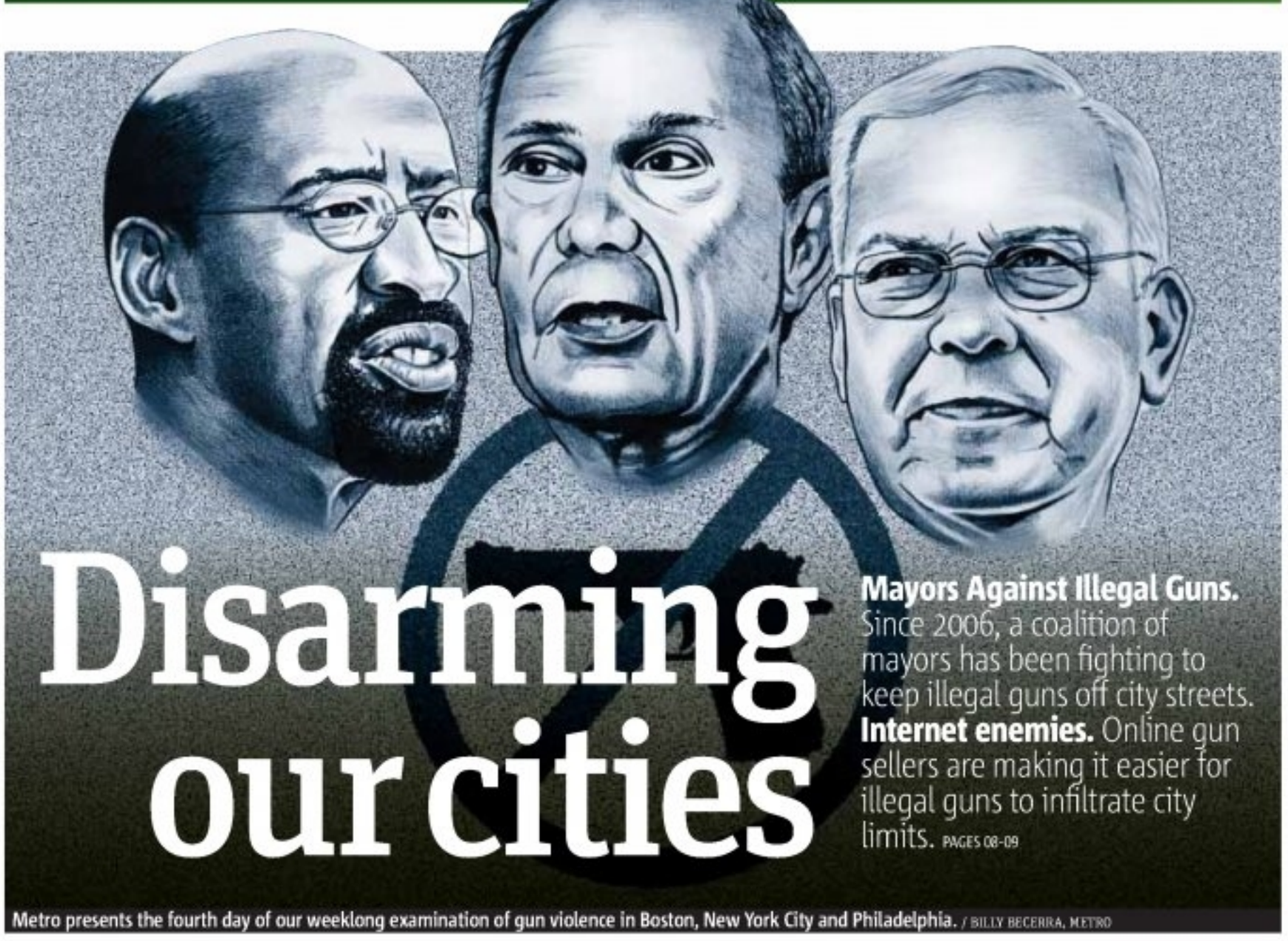
Thursday, September 26, 2013 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly



Disarming our cities

Mayors Against Illegal Guns. Since 2006, a coalition of mayors has been fighting to keep illegal guns off city streets. **Internet enemies.** Online gun sellers are making it easier for illegal guns to infiltrate city limits. PAGES 08-09

Metro presents the fourth day of our weeklong examination of gun violence in Boston, New York City and Philadelphia. / BILLY BECERRA, METRO

Philly has some gloomy people: Poll

PAGE 04

What's the cost of Obamacare?

PAGE 06

'Michael J. Fox Show' is sad and sweet

PAGE 13

Korn is once again off the leash

PAGE 14

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1 NEWS

Local tweet

"Michael Moses Ward, Birdie Africa, 41 has died after drowning in a hot tub on a Celebrity cruise ship. He survived Move bombing. RIP."

Eugene Jackson, @PhillyGene1

Top 3

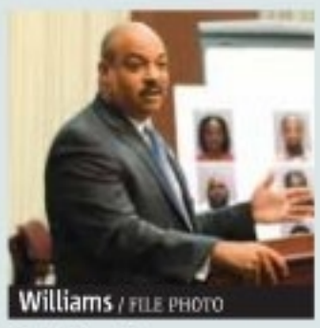
What's trending at Metro.us

1 'PHOTOS: FBI releases images of Aaron Alexis from Washington Navy Yard shooting'

2 'VIDEO: Jimmy Fallon and Justin Timberlake talk in hashtags'

3 'VIDEO: Cruz reads "Green Eggs and Ham" on Senate floor'

Public safety



Williams / FILE PHOTO

DA Seth Williams receives community engagement award

The Association of Prosecuting Attorneys and Target last night presented Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams with the 2013 Innovative Community Engagement Award recognizing outstanding leaders in community prosecution.

The ceremony is part of the eighth National Community Prosecution Training Summit underway this week in Philadelphia. METRO

Franklinville

Police seek shooting, robbery suspects

Philadelphia police are seeking two suspects in a robbery and shooting in Franklinville on Monday.

One suspect stole an iPod Nano while a second suspect shot at the victim as he chased after the robber.

The suspect who stole the iPod is described as a black male, about 18 years old and 150 to 160 pounds.

He was wearing a dark hoodie.

The second suspect is described as a black male who is about 18 to 21 years old, wearing a navy blue hoodie with white letters on the front and tan pants.

Police ask anyone with information about the crime to call East Detectives Division at 215-686-3243/3244. METRO

Jasmine's siblings Christopher Cruz, Jessica Berrios and Maritza Cruz sit with their mother, also named Maritza Cruz. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Who killed Jasmine Cruz?

Grief. Nearly two years after the murder of Jasmine Cruz, her family still seeks answers.

Jasmine Cruz's mother still remembers the last words her 20-year-old daughter spoke to her as she left the family home the night of Jan. 15, 2012, and walked up Hartville Street.

"I was like, 'Jasmine, Jasmine, come back home. It's real cold,'" she said. "She looked back at me and she said, 'Mommy, mommy, I'll be back, but always remember that I love you.' And those were her last words: I love you."

A half-hour later, the house was swarmed by frantic neighbors knocking on the door. Jasmine had been shot, gunned down as she stood outside on the 3400 block of H Street. She died in the hospital the next day.

Her family still has in their basement the bag of bloody clothes Jasmine was wearing when she was killed. Jasmine's mother keeps strapped to her wrist a rope bracelet found on her daughter's body.

But for the most part, Jasmine's family is left only with memories — and questions.

"We're always going to just have that question in our head. Like, why?" Jasmine's sister Jessica Berrios said. "What happened that night? We just don't know."

Nearly two years later, no arrests have been made.

"There's not a day that I don't wake up crying," Jasmine's mother said. "There's not a day that I don't go to sleep crying for my daughter. It's real hard for all of us. The only thing that I ask God every day and day and night is, 'Please, God, open doors for my daughter. Let somebody show up and be like, 'This is the person,' or have the [district attorney] give us a call and give us good news, because all I want is justice for my daughter."

Quoted

"We're always going to just have that question in our head, like, 'Why?'"

Jessica Berrios

But so far, the family's pleas for answers have been met with silence.

"With Jasmine, as soon as that happened, my mom woke up my sister and we all was out in our neighborhood, but it wasn't like any other case," Jasmine's sister Maritza Cruz said. "Nobody was saying anything."

"I don't think her case is going to be solved unless somebody basically says anything, which is just in the streets considered 'snitching,'" Berrios said. "So if somebody 'snitches,' then maybe her case will be solved."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
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See something?

Anyone with information about the crime is asked to contact the Homicide Unit at 215-686-3334/3335, or to submit an anonymous tip by dialing 215-686-TIPS or texting PPD TIP (773847).

- As with all homicides in Philadelphia, there is a $20,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible.

'Active case'

No leads yet

Homicide Det. Edward Scally said Jasmine's slaying "is still a very active case."

"Unfortunately, it happened on a freezing cold night," he said. "There wasn't really anybody out there with her, and the circumstances surrounding the murder were related to, we believe, narcotics sales."

He said he's been working with the District Attorney's Office in the hope someone arrested on an unrelated charge gives some information in an attempt to decrease their own penalty.

Scally noted the shooting happened on a violent block, where a man was the same day shot several times, just hours before Jasmine's murder. "The crime scene tape was basically still stuck to the poles out there from that job," he said. The two shootings were found to be unrelated.

#TOGETHERWEBUILD

Poll: Philadelphians are pessimistic folks

Unhappy. In a Pew Charitable Trusts poll, residents gave Philly the lowest ratings in survey history.

A poll released yesterday by The Pew Charitable Trusts indicates Philadelphians' pessimism toward the city is growing.

"On the whole, residents gave the city lower ratings than at any time over the 5 years Pew has been polling in Philadelphia," Larry Eichel, director of Pew's Philadelphia program, said.

The biggest shift was in residents' view of the future, with the proportion of Philadelphians expecting the city to improve in five years dropping to 52 percent this year, from a high of 68 percent in 2009.

Mayor Michael Nutter's approval rating also plummeted to the lowest recorded by Pew, dropping 21 percentage points in just one year.

The report further found the level of optimism fell in two groups that have tended to view the city in a particularly positive light — residents with family incomes above $100,000 and those who have lived in the city for 10 years or less.

Quoted

"Certainly, there was a lot of concern about education, and I think there was no question that influenced the mood of the city and everything in the poll."

Eichel

The total percentage of people from those demographics who felt the city was on the right track fell 9 points, though the sentiment dropped only 2 percentage points among all respondents.

"As to why long-term residents have a more pessimistic view, I can't really tell you why that is," Eichel said. "It's certainly a phenomenon we've noticed throughout our polling. Another way of looking at it is people who have been here a shorter amount of time are more optimistic."

The poll showed the most negative views of the city came from Northeast Philadelphia residents, with 44 percent saying the city was worse off than 5 years earlier, compared to 37 percent of all residents.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Silver lining

Some are pretty happy with Philly

Despite the pessimism, 60 percent of Philadelphians said they considered the city a "good" or "excellent" place to live, roughly the same proportion as in previous years.

"It's certainly possible that someone could take the 'right direction, wrong track' question as more of a short-term question," Eichel said.

"And despite the fact that they think the city may not be as good as it was and maybe it's on the wrong track, but it's still a good place to live," he added.

Restored and renovated

SEPTA's new transit hub, a bus loop at 33rd and Dauphin streets in Strawberry Mansion, opened yesterday with an inauguration ceremony. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Closure

Foot found belongs to missing Philly woman

A skeletal foot that washed up in Ocean City this summer has been identified as belonging to missing Philadelphia woman Franchesca Alvarado, her family said. METRO

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Ordered. Controller subpoenas L&I for demolition reports

City Controller Alan Butkovitz issued a subpoena yesterday to Department of Licenses and Inspections Commissioner Carlton Williams to produce city demolition reports as part of an audit in the wake of the fatal June 5 building collapse.

Butkovitz is seeking records of the 300-plus site inspections conducted by L&I immediately following the collapse, as well as inspection reports for other demolition sites dating back to 2009.

He stated he was "forced to subpoena the records" after repeated requests were ignored.

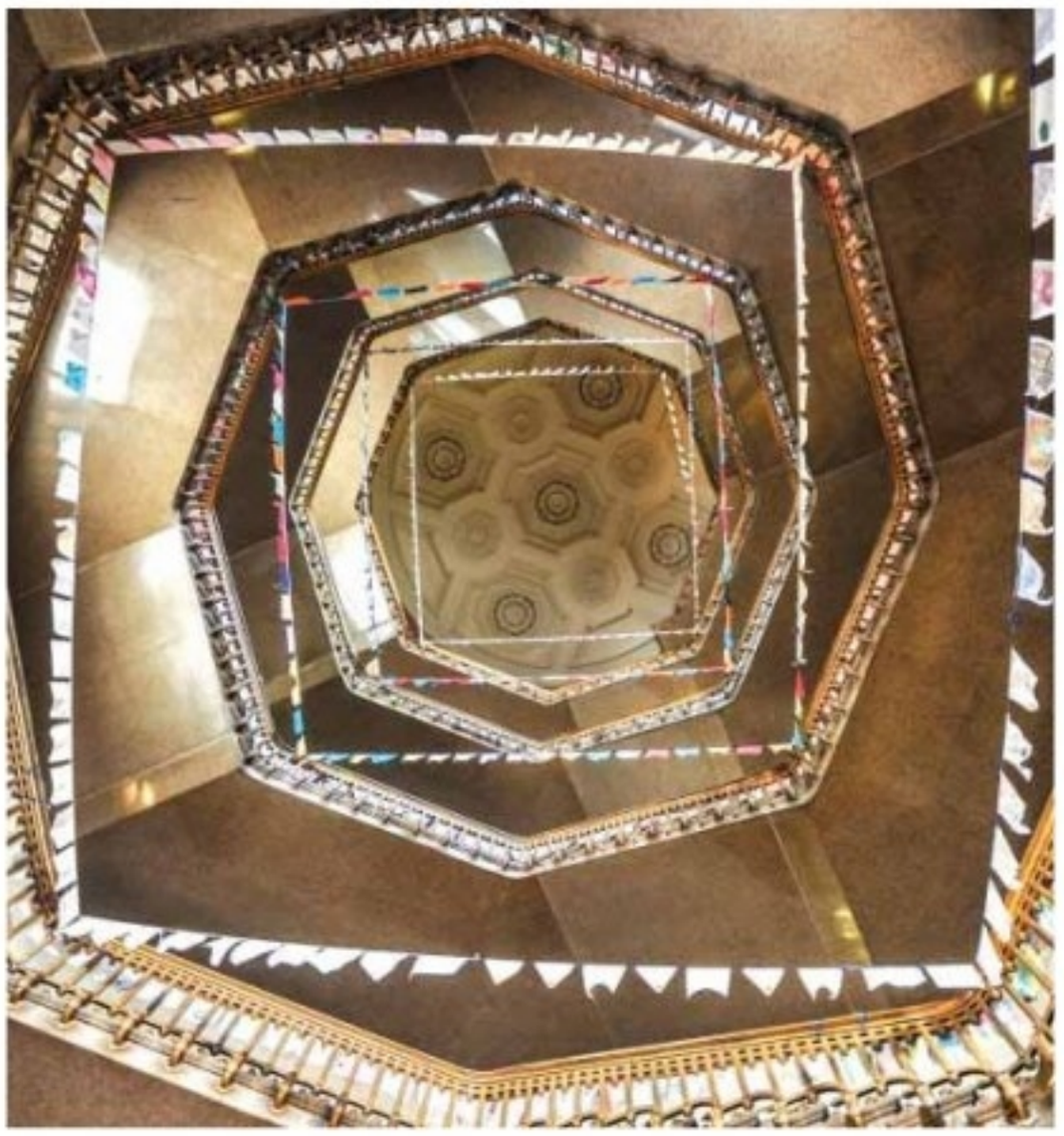
Mayor Michael Nutter's press secretary Mark McDonald said in response the administration has been working with multiple agencies, including the controller's office, to contribute to numerous investigations into the collapse. "We've provided a great deal of material to Mr. Butkovitz already and in no way are we digging our heels in or obstructing his audit," McDonald said. "We will provide him what he needs, but in some cases, his requests are so voluminous and somewhat obscure."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH

'We're cooperating'

Calling the controller's decision to subpoena Williams "political showboating," McDonald said the city already agreed to provide Butkovitz with the records he's demanding.

- "We absolutely dispute his assertion that we're not cooperating," he said. "But I've got to say — we do not appreciate this kind of behavior."



Flags fly at the Stairway of Dreams

Flags created by students from all over the United States are hung from the northeastern stairs at City Hall in a special exhibit called Stairway of Dreams. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Shopping spree

Cops: Couple stole credit cards at Ikea

Police are looking for a man and a woman who allegedly stole credit cards Saturday from a car parked outside the South Philadelphia Ikea.

The suspects allegedly broke into a car and took the victim's pocketbook. Police said the duo then went on a shopping spree using the stolen credit cards.

One suspect is described as a heavy white female between the ages of 30 and 40 with brown hair and glasses.

The second suspect is described as a white male between the ages of 30 and 40 with brown hair and a goatee.

He was last seen wearing an orange shirt with "SHOW TIME" written across the front. METRO

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Debate over whether Obamacare will prove affordable healthcare for millions of uninsured Americans has intensified in the past few months, as states have announced rates. / GETTY IMAGES

The average monthly cost of Obamacare across the US: $328

Resistance. Obama said the fierce opposition stems from the fear that Americans will embrace the program.

Americans will pay an average premium of $328 monthly for a mid-tier health insurance plan when the Obamacare health exchanges open for enrollment next week — and most will qualify for government subsidies to lower that price, federal government said yesterday.

The figure, based on data for approved insurance plans in 48 states, is the broadest national estimate for the cost of coverage when President Barack Obama's healthcare reform law takes full effect next year. The prices of the new plans are at the heart of a political debate over whether they will be affordable enough to attract millions of uninsured Americans when enrollment begins on Oct. 1.

"Essentially they're saying people will like this thing too much, and then it will be really hard to roll back," Obama said on Tuesday in a conversation about healthcare with former President Bill Clinton. "What we're saying is, just look for yourself. Take a look at it, and you will discover that this is a good deal for you."

A major factor in determining the price was the level of competition among insurance companies, with rates significantly higher in states with fewer players, the Department of Health and Human Services said in its report. REUTERS

Sign up

7M

The administration is counting on signing up 7 million Americans, including 2.7 million younger and healthier consumers who are needed to offset the costs of sicker members, in the first full year of reform through the state exchanges.

49 cents

US Postal Service to raise prices

The cash-strapped U.S. Postal Service plans to raise the cost of mailing a letter in the United States by three pennies to 49 cents in January, the agency announced yesterday.

The plan to increase the price of stamps and postal services is expected to raise $2 billion annually and is subject to approval from the Postal Regulatory Commission, it said. REUTERS

Today's winner

To enter your submission for the Metro Photo Challenge to win a trip to Ghana, go to **www.metrophotochallenge.com.**

metro PHOTO CHALLENGE

'Boston Common'

Nikayla Scott, Boston

Category: Sight

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Congress turns attention to debt limit battle

Complicated
Both the debt ceiling and government funding measures were complicated by Republican attempts to use the must-do bills to gut President Obama's signature health care law, known as Obamacare.
Republican and Democratic legislators bickered over the Affordable Health Care Act, as they have done for nearly five years now. / GETTY IMAGES

Funding bill. The GOP was expected to join Democrats in moving legislation toward passage.

The U.S. Congress, already struggling to avert a government shutdown next week, turned its attention yesterday to the other fiscal bullet it had to dodge: a federal debt default.

Republican leaders in the House of Representatives notified members that a vote on raising the debt limit could come as early as tomorrow.

Treasury Secretary Jack Lew pleaded for quick action in the deeply divided Congress on raising the $16.7 trillion statutory limit on government borrowing, as he projected an Oct. 17 drop-dead date when only $30 billion would be left in his agency's checking account.

Amid those dire warnings, lawmakers struggled with another potential crisis: federal agency shutdowns that could begin with the new fiscal year on Oct. 1 unless Congress comes up with emergency funds.

The money would be used to continue paying U.S. troops, operate border patrols, run museums, provide free school lunches for poor children, and thousands of other activities.

The Senate voted unanimously to begin advancing legislation to avert government agency shutdowns. But tough fights in both the Senate and House remain over the next few days. REUTERS

Mortgages

'Massive fraud' at center of trial against B of A

Bank of America Corp.'s Countrywide unit placed profits over quality in a "massive fraud," selling shoddy mortgages to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, a U.S. government lawyer said on Tuesday.

The claim came at the start of the first case by the government to go to trial against a major bank over defective mortgage practices leading up to the 2008 financial crisis. REUTERS

Pact. Kerry signs Arms Trade Treaty, says it won't harm US rights

The United States signed a U.N. Arms Trade Treaty regulating the $70 billion global trade in conventional arms yesterday, and the Obama administration sought to allay the fears of the powerful U.S. gun lobby, which says the pact will violate the constitutional rights of Americans.

The treaty, which relates only to cross-border trade and aims to keep weapons out of the hands of human rights abusers and criminals, still requires ratification by the U.S. Senate and has been attacked by the National Rifle Association.

Among the NRA arguments against the treaty are that it undermines American sovereignty and that it disregards the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees citizens the right to bear arms.

The U.S. became the 91st country to sign when Secretary of State John Kerry put pen to paper on the sidelines of the annual gathering of world leaders at the United Nations. REUTERS

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Mayors take up fight to

Battlefront. The mayors of Boston, Philadelphia and New York City are leading a coalition that is trying to influence the gun control discussion across America.

On April 25, 2006, New York City's Michael Bloomberg and Boston's Thomas Menino were joined by 15 other mayors for a summit at Gracie Mansion in New York City, where they would form Mayors Against Illegal Guns.

The group is a proposed political counterweight to the money and influence of the National Rifle Association, though its founders' motivation went beyond just that.

The year before, Boston recorded a 10-year high in its homicide rate, with a large part of the city's violence stemming from illegal handguns. There was a cost, the mayors reasoned, to continued inaction.

"We were seeing firsthand the impact of illegal guns in our neighborhoods," said James Sullivan, a federal relations officer for Menino. "A lot of it is caused by handguns coming in from out of state. Roughly 60 percent of the crime guns recovered in Boston come from out of state. In New York, it's closer to 85 percent. It's a national problem."

Actually, according to new statistics from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, that number has grown to 90 percent of traceable guns used in crimes in New York City in 2011, up from 85 percent in 2009. The main source of these illegal arms was Virginia with 322 guns, followed by 225 from North Carolina.

By the numbers

33

It's up to local and state laws to regulate private sales, a system that currently sees 33 states requiring zero background checks, bills of sale or even ID verification for such sales.

"That means, in addition to our tough enforcement efforts inside the five boroughs, we have to pay attention to gun laws outside of the city," Bloomberg said when the numbers were released.

This pattern of supply is repeated across the region in cities like Boston and Philadelphia.

Currently, if you buy a gun from a federal firearm licensed dealer, you need to show ID, pass a background check and have the sale recorded. It's up to local and state laws to regulate private sales, a system that currently sees 33 states requiring zero background checks, bills of sale or even ID verification.

This problem is compounded by online sites like Armslist.com and BudsGunShop.com, which offer eBay-like gun auctions around the clock, becoming, in effect, 24/7 gun shows for unlicensed dealers.

With a Pennsylvania congressional bill requiring universal background checks stalled for months, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter — a member of the mayors coalition — has said one of the most effective things the city can do to keep guns out of criminals' hands is universal background checks. "It's like setting up two different lines at the airport — one where you have to go through security and one where you don't. Which one do you think the criminals are going to choose?" he said.

The checks must be "comprehensive and enforceable," Nutter said. "Background checks are the only systematic way to stop felons, domestic abusers and people with severe mental illnesses from buying firearms."

The point remains, however, that no state exists in a vacuum. The lax laws in one state, along with the stymied ability of the federal government to properly track and control the move-

MAYORS AGAINST ILLEGAL GUNS IS TRYING TO CURB GUN VIOLENCE IN SOME OF AMERICA'S BIGGEST CITIES.
BILLY BECERRA, ILLUSTRATION, METRO

Quoted

"It's like setting up two different lines at the airport — one where you have to go through security and one where you don't. Which do you think the criminals are going to choose?" Nutter

Guns in our cities

Following the trail of our bloody streets

Boston, Philadelphia, New York City: Three different cities with a common problem. Gun violence has destroyed the lives of countless individuals on our streets and wrought devastation across our neighborhoods, searing itself into their fabric.

Today, Metro continues our weeklong look at the impact gun violence has had on those cities in the aftermath of the massacre at the Washington, D.C., Navy Yard. **THE EDITORS**

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purge cities of guns

ment of firearms, allows for the export of untraceable tools of crime around the nation.

"We have some challenges in regards to firearms trafficking," remarked Steve Bartholomew, ATF's public affairs officer in Pennsylvania, "like secondary markets online and private sales, when it comes to a gun that ends up in a crime. There may be a paper trail to the original purchaser, but if it's transferred hands four or five times without any documentation, it can hinder the process.

Putting a stop to this flow of unchecked underground trafficking can be done, as some agencies have proposed. In 2009, the Journal of Urban Health published a study that found in cities where a background check is required for a private handgun sale, there was a 48 percent decline in intrastate illegal gun trafficking and a 64 percent decline in gun exports across state lines, as measured by guns recovered at crime scenes.

"The most important thing we need to do is fix our current system for background checks," said Daniel Webster, study author and director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research, at a gun policy summit.

The debate over guns and gun culture in this country has been described as intractable. It's an issue deeply personal to the mayors of all three cities.

"It's my boss," said Sullivan, speaking of Boston's Menino, "who gets the call at night when a 13-year-old is shot or worse. We're talking about a system that needs major improvement."

KIT DILLON
letters@metro.us

Online dangers

Study warns of illegal gun sales

A single website can help people with criminal records buy more than 25,000 illegal guns this year alone, according to a report commissioned by Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Bloomberg / GETTY IMAGES

Mayors Against Illegal Guns, co-founded by Bloomberg, made the estimate after a study of Armslist.com, which he called "the Craigslist for national gun sales."

"In the digital age, convicted felons, domestic abusers and other dangerous people who are legally barred from buying guns can do so online with little more than a phone number or email address," Bloomberg said.

Bloomberg's group found that one in 30 of would-be gun buyers posting on Armslist.com committed crimes that should have prohibited them from possessing firearms.

"This investigation has just scratched the surface of the Internet's vast illegal gun market — and if nothing is done, that market will continue to grow," Bloomberg said.

The mayor's chief policy advisor, John Feinblatt, who directed the report, said that it is all too easy for criminals to use the Web to buy guns.

In Wisconsin last year, a man gunned down his wife and two of her coworkers before shooting himself, days after a judge issued an order barring him from purchasing firearms.

The man found someone selling a .40-caliber semi-automatic Glock on Armslist, the report states.

Tragedies like that are possible because federal law doesn't require private sellers — online or otherwise — to conduct background checks, Bloomberg said.

A request for comment from Armslist.com was not returned. The website asks users to follow federal and state gun laws and report illegal activity. **ANNA SANDERS**

National tragedy

Washington's failure to strengthen background checks

In the wake of the Sept. 16 gun massacre at the Washington, D.C., Navy Yard, some members of Congress are rattling the war drums about the necessity of stricter gun control laws. Based on how the federal legislative push went after the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary, it's unlikely legislation will pass Congress.

Sens. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., and Joe Manchin, D-W. Va., led the effort for gun legislation reform after the massacre at Newtown, Conn., by introducing a bill that would require background checks on private sales of guns.

On April 17, that bill, with its modest proposals, died on the U.S. Senate floor.

KIT DILLON

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Research, consideration and maybe forgoing a vacation are part of the decision to apply for a private school education. / GETTY IMAGES

Going private: Is it right for your child?

Choices. Parents should ask around, reach out and do thorough research to make an informed decision.

Academic counselor Eric Greenberg has seen it all in more than 20 years working with students and their parents in his New York-based firm. Though a private education can be hugely beneficial, Greenberg says that parents in search of options have to reach out, research and seriously consider what the benefits and drawbacks are.

What is the most important piece of advice you give to parents considering a private school education for their children?
It is very important for the parents and students to research the school very carefully and, when visiting, consider if they can see themselves there for many years. Just like colleges have different personalities, so do K-12 private schools. Also, schools change over the years so it is not necessarily a good idea to only rely on what one might have heard years ago.

Tell me about things that private schools have to offer parents. What freedoms and challenges are there?
In many cases private schools have small class sizes and a great variety of classes in art, music, gym, etc. Also, many private schools offer a very large variety of academic courses. Private school tuition tends to be very costly, so many families need to make lifestyle changes (fewer vacations or a less expensive car, for example) in order to be able to afford it.

How are tests like the ERB (Educational Review Board) used to evaluate students during the admissions process? How about standardized tests?
Most people seem to agree that standardized testing is important as a way to compare students who are coming from many different schools. Schools decide how much weight they want to give to the testing as compared to other factors such as teacher evaluations, grades, extracurricular activities, community service, hobbies, etc. Many private schools put a lot of emphasis on the application essays and interviews as well.

Best fit

- "The earlier a person starts the school search process, the better the 'fit' is likely to be between the student and the school," Greenberg says. "Schools are much more than academics — they are places that help students grow socially as well. Looking at the 'whole' school is important."
- Greenberg says that doing a tour of a school is a good way to consider whether it is the right place for your child. "Listening to what other people say can be very helpful," he says, but there is much to be learned from an actual visit.
- Before opting for one school over another, Greenberg says parents should evaluate whether the school extends through the end of high school — and if staying in one school is important.

JULIA FURLAN
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Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Jim Carrey is totally jazzed, Justin Bieber wants you to know you haven't been talking to his grandparents, Louis Tomlinson is groggy and Rihanna is ... relaxing.

@JimCarrey: It's gonna be an amazing day! You know why? CUZ I DOUBLE FRICKIN' STAMPED IT!

@justinbieber: Any account on twitter isn't actually my Grandparents! They don't have twitter and say they never will

@Louis_Tomlinson: Still not managed to get into the time zone :(feel like a zombie.

@rihanna: 420

GETTY IMAGES

The ghosts of the '80s are calling

No paparazzi were harmed in the taking of this photo. Famed exes Sean Penn and Madonna posed together at the Madonna and Steven Klein secretprojectrevolution party held at the Gagosian Gallery on Tuesday in New York. The party helped launch Art ForFreedom, a global initiative to further freedom of expression. "Freedom of speech. Freedom of choice. Freedom of experience. We live in a world where basic rights are under attack. Madonna and Steven Klein's new film is a hard lens on the dystopian now; a call to join the Revolution of love," read the press notes. You can check out the 17-minute film now on Madonna's YouTube channel.

Is Efron going to be the next Montieth?

An anonymous source recounts in the latest National Enquirer (which, I hate to say it, is usually trustworthy) that they watched the 25-year-old star pass out after a night of abusing prescription painkiller oxycodone as well as alcohol, marijuana and Adderall at New York's Thompson Hotel on Jan. 3. "I was scared for him," the source says. "He was like a junkie. He wanted the drugs so bad. He went through a lot of pills even though it was clear he was entering a danger zone. My worst fear was that he had died from an overdose."

The Enquirer also has "stunning photo proof" from the source. I checked them out and braced for the worst but it just looks like Efron is adorably sleeping, not nearly dying. Still, check yourself before you wreck yourself, Efron. We don't want those abs of yours to flex their way off this mortal coil before they have to.

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
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dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Rihanna is in a Twitter feud with Teyana Taylor

Rihanna is in a Twitter feud with up-and-coming R&B singer Teyana Taylor.

I have to say, I don't totally get why someone like Rihanna would pick on someone like Teyana, aside from the fact that their names rhyme. I have literally only heard of Teyana because Rihanna is making fun of her. Is this all part of some larger secret plot to make Teyana famous?

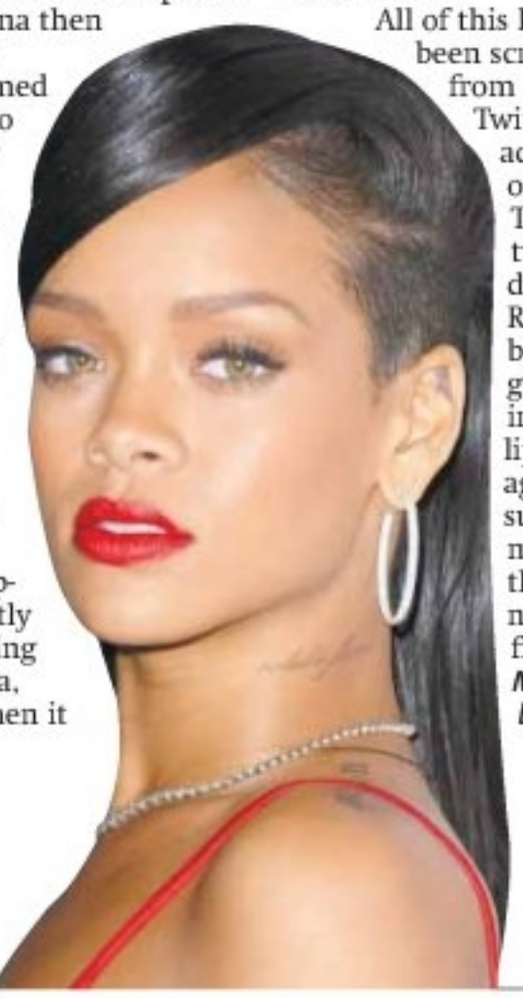
TEYANA TAYLOR
GETTY IMAGES

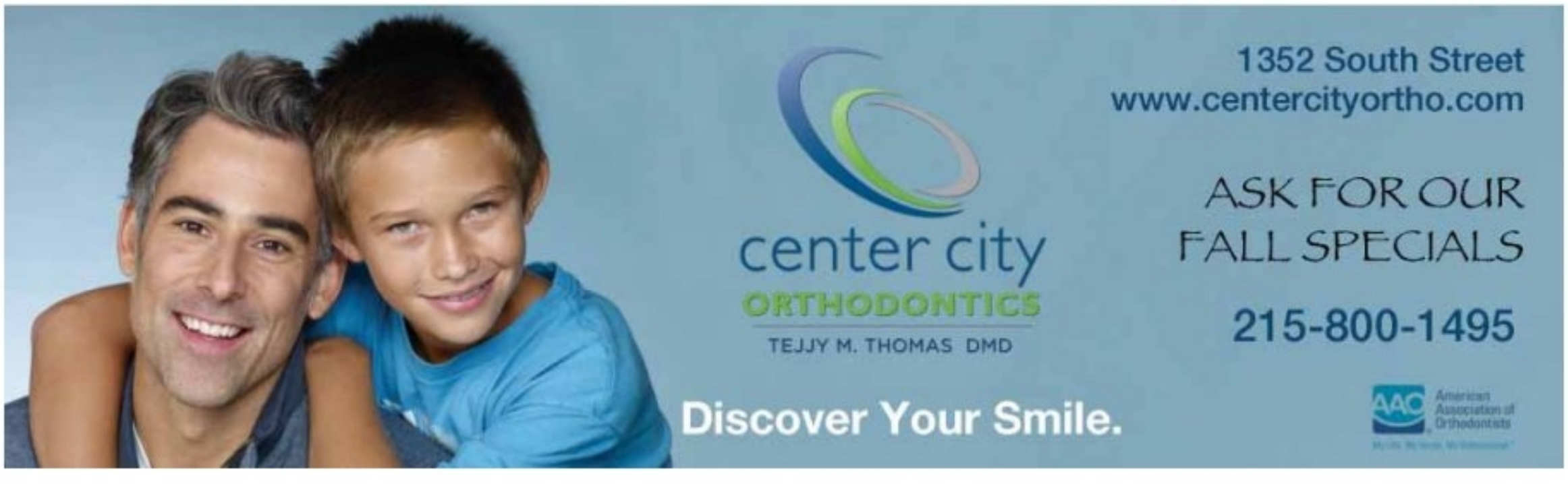
It all started on Sept. 11 when Teyana, who is signed to Kanye West's GOOD label, Instagrammed a video of herself singing Anita Baker's "Caught in the Rapture." Rihanna then Instagrammed a video of her male stylist in a Teyana-esque wig, singing the same song and apparently mocking Teyana, and then it was on.

"Petty is petty and shade is shade, b—knew what the f— she was doing," Teyana tweeted (and later deleted), according to E! Online.

"I REFUSE to help your career… you will NOT get an @ from me! Not til you pay me! #nomorefreepormo" — [yes, Rihanna made a typo on "promo"] — "#iRefuse," Rihanna responded (but not an @ response, of course). She even changed her Twitter background to mock financial statements — one showing that Teyana is worth $500,000, the other valuing Rihanna at $90 million.

All of this has now been scrubbed from their Twitter accounts, of course. The tweets are deleted; Rihanna's background image is lipstick again. I am sure that means they are now best friends. ***Metro/Melinda Taub***





Michael J. Fox returns to TV

Review. "The Michael J. Fox Show" is a triumph for the actor. But for how long?

"The Michael J. Fox Show" premieres on NBC tonight with back-to-back episodes at 9 p.m. / NBC

On "The Michael J. Fox Show," beloved actor Michael J. Fox is Mike Henry, a well-known TV news anchor with Parkinson's who returns to work after a five-year hiatus. The show, which presents itself as a mix of the feel-good family dramedy "Parenthood" and the sharp wit of "Parks and Rec" — but baked up in a "Big Bang Theory" mainstream sitcom sugar cake — touches on the hero-worship that has attached itself to Fox since he revealed his diagnosis of Parkinson's disease in 1999. In the show, Henry can hardly go out in public without receiving a standing ovation.

Parkinson's is a huge theme of the show. The disease is mentioned in some variation in every scene of the pilot, but Fox's visible afflictions from it don't loom as large. The actor can sometimes seem like an engine without the right oil; his motions are halting and sometimes unpredictable, but not wild or distracting.

The grim, little tragedies of the disease — Henry can't dial the phone without accidentally calling the cops, he can't navigate a serving spoon without spilling — are handled in the "aw, shucks" manner familiar to sitcoms. "Can you not have a personal victory right now? We are starving," his wife "jokes" as he tries, and fails, to dish out his family's supper. It would make you cry if you couldn't almost hear the laugh-track in the background.

The writing is witty, the acting is good (anything that features Wendell Pierce of "The Wire" is OK with me) and it looks nice on the screen. But it's not must-see TV.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Season 1

A Fox-y plot

"The Michael J. Fox Show" follows Henry as he navigates his family life (he became a stay-at-home dad after the diagnosis, much to the chagrin of his wife — Betsy Brandt of "Breaking Bad"— and their three children), as well as his return to the newsroom while battling Parkinson's.

Now playing

Top 5 films

Joseph Gordon-Levitt only marginally enjoys banging Scarlett Johansson in "Don Jon." / LINDA KALLERUS

1 **'Don Jon'** Not content to be one of the best actors of his generation, Joseph Gordon-Levitt is a director too. He also stars in his feature debut, playing an oily Jersey boy who finds sex with Scarlett Johansson not as fulfilling as jerkin' to Internet porn. And Tony Danza's his dad!

2 **'Baggage Claim'** This is Robin Thicke and Paula Patton's world; we're just living in it. Here, Patton plays the only unwed woman in her family, who decides to travel cross-country to beg a man to marry her.

3 **'Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2'** Sorry, guys, but this sequel to the 2009 adaptation of the 1978 children's book is not based on its 1990 sequel, "Pickles to Pittsburgh." It's an original concept.

4 **'Metallica: Through the Never'** Fifty-year-old metalheads finally go through the never — that is to say, star in a 3-D IMAX concert movie with lasers, holograms and a "story" running throughout, starring Dane De Haan ("The Place Beyond the Pines") encountering protesters and demons.

5 **'Inequality for All'** Former Secretary of Labor and economist Robert Reich hosts this documentary, in which he reminds us of the ever-widening gap between rich and poor — and essentially how we're all going to die horrible deaths.

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A real 'Paradigm Shift' for Korn

Interview. Jonathan Davis talks new fans, old times and happy returns.

Korn play the Electric Factory (421 N. 7th St.) tonight at 8:30.
SEBASTIEN PAQUET

Jonathan Davis isn't too concerned about creating a commercially successful album these days.

"We don't get worked up over that anymore since we've already established ourselves," says the Korn singer. "If you want to buy our record, buy it. If not, that's cool. We're not worried about labels anymore because we always know we can put a record out. Back in the day we definitely felt that pressure. But not anymore."

Their new album is "The Paradigm Shift," and the band has recently gone through a paradigm shift of their own — with the return of founding member Brian "Head" Welch, whose deep detuned guitars first helped put Korn in the enviable position of not worrying about who buys their albums.

Bonus question

What do you think of today's music?
There's nothing out there that really grabs me right now. The rock world is pretty stagnant. ... When I think of the alternative world, I feel like those days are coming back. It's really new wavy and different, which I dig, but I don't feel like it's a killer scene.

Tell us about Welch's return.
He showed up at a show we were playing at Carolina Rebellion, and we asked him to come onstage and play a song with us. When he did, the crowd was so emotional. People were crying and so much sh— was going on that I think he realized it was time to come back. ... It's like he never left. It's been really great.

Don Gilmore produced this album. He's been known for working with poppier acts, like Avril Lavigne and Sugar Ray, to name a couple. How was working with him?
We really, really liked working with Don. It was a lot of fun. At first he was a little hard to read, but we broke him down through the process. That's when he started acting like a kid and having fun with us.

After 20 years as a band, how has your audience evolved?
I think our audience has grown with us. But then also, we have a lot of new fans too. We see a lot of kids in the crowd as well as older people, so it's really cool. Our music has transferred over a couple decades and touched different people.

JOHN PLICHTER
letters@metro.us

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(But, remember, he wasn't always an old ugly man - once, he was just ugly)

Eva Mendes designs her new fave item

"You can't go wrong with color. And I love print," says Mendes.
ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF NEW YORK & COMPANY

Collaboration. The actress now has a New York & Company line.

Double-stick tape can't always save your outfit, so if you find yourself cowering because you're popping out of your top, Eva Mendes says to ditch the ensemble. Her advice: Wear what you feel comfortable in — in her case, that means a ladylike outfit, like one of the many looks she's designed as part of her new capsule for New York & Company. The line consists of feminine dresses, sophisticated separates and a whole lot of color and print, all inspired by the bombshell's personal style. At a recent party for the collection, she broke down her design process and told us what she's craving for fall.

What's your go-to look for a night out?
I would probably wear this. [Her pencil skirt and fitted Mila blouse.] I think it's chic, it's really comfortable. It's very ladylike, very classy. I don't think I've ever been into short and super-sexy looks. I always like [being] a bit more demure. And when I have gone more body-conscious in the past, I've regretted the decision.

What is your style mantra?
You just have to feel great in [what you're wearing]. I mean, I love double-stick tape, it really works magic — but if you find yourself using too much double-stick I think you better rethink the size of your outfit or get something you feel more comfortable in, because that's the key to looking great.

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What are you looking forward to wearing now that it's fall?
Coats! I love coats, so I designed two of my favorite coats. That's what I'm looking forward to. I also love Celine. I think Prada is always exciting and Dolce & Gabbana know how to make a dress for a woman like nobody else.

MAJA LUNDAGER PEDERSEN
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The back story

Mendes on creating her own line

"For every piece I designed, I have an emotional reason for it. Ever since high school, I have loved bodysuits. It's just nostalgic for me. You don't see enough body suits out there. And I think pencil skirts fit every type of body. I have a reason for each piece."

PLUS

Her must-have

Fall favorite

"The cool part of this job is that I get to design my favorite items," says Mendes. Her new love? This pink coat for $159.95.

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LIVE WITHOUT HASHTAGS AND MORE EXPERIENCES

Are you where your feet are, or where your phone is? / GETTY IMAGES, BANANASTOCK RF

The point of being in a relationship isn't so that other people don't think you're a loser. I know that may sound a little extreme, but if we're honest, having a Facebook account can come along with a certain amount of pressure to project an image of perfection. We can get so obsessed with showing our social media selves having a good time that we don't live in the moment and actually have a good time as it's happening.

Living in the moment means really experiencing whatever you're doing. At the risk of sounding too crunchy, it means tuning in, taking in what's around you and staying engaged. Ask yourself this: Are you where your feet are? Or are you so busy taking pictures, posting them on social media sites and monitoring the likes and comments that you're not really interacting with the people around you?

Although smartphones enable us to stay in touch in seemingly endless ways, they can also undermine our friendships and relationships. It's not enough to simply have friends; we have to actively engage with each other. It's not uncommon to be around people but still feel alone. That's what happens when we're not really connecting.

Connecting means confiding in our partners when things aren't so great. It means asking real questions and making ourselves vulnerable, This all starts with making the commitment to cool it with phone fetish.

So: Take a few photos when you first meet up, but then put your phone away. It's a mistake to end up with a bunch of images of times that could have been more fun had you actually been focused on the experience at hand.

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Where to eat

Opening. We've got the scoop on the most hotly anticipated restaurants.

Cook and Shaker will offer plenty of vegetarian options. / COOK AND SHAKER

Pigging out

The Fat Ham

Coming off the success of his upscale Avenue of the Arts spot, Sbraga in the Symphony House, "Top Chef" winner Kevin Sbraga is taking his talents to University City — to another Carl Dranoff-developed building, the Left Bank. The Fat Ham will focus on Southern cuisine, with plenty of porcine dishes on the menu, including pigs feet with smoked gemelli pasta and tomato gravy. We're also looking forward to having another place to get the country-fried lobster that's been such a hit at Sbraga, and the pepper-crusted bacon with quail egg, coffee and arugula.
3131 Walnut St.
www.fat-ham.com

We want to be French

Laurel

Nicholas Elmi made a name for himself working at top-rated French restaurants, including our own Le Bec Fin, before heading down to New Orleans to film the newest season of "Top Chef" — which starts airing next week. And now he's opening up his first restaurant, set on the foodie strip East Passyunk Avenue. Expect French-inspired choices and a build-your-own, four-course tasting menu. The opening of the BYOB restaurant, which is named after the state flower, is slated for early November.
1617 E. Passyunk Ave.

For the vegans

Cook and Shaker

Where else can you find a bar with a jukebox, a karaoke machine and buffalo-fried brussels sprouts on the menu? Chef Laura Viegas is going low-key for her first restaurant, located in Kensington. The menu is heavy on vegan and vegetarian fare, but carnivores shouldn't be deterred — bangers and mash also make an appearance. The opening is slated for end of October.
2301 E. Albert St., 215-426-2665, www.cookandshaker.com

Le Cheri

The couple behind the acclaimed Bibou in South Philly is heading to Rittenhouse. Charlotte and Pierre Calmels are taking over the Art Alliance's restaurant space with a 55-seater with both indoor and outdoor space, tentatively scheduled to open at the end of October. It'll be cheaper than Bibou.
251 S. 18th St.

Brunch me, please

High Street on Market

The breakfast sandwich piled with shaved pastrami, spiced hash, roasted peppers and onions, an egg and Russian dressing should be enough to reel you into this casual spot from Fork's Ellen Yin. The flavors here, designed by chef Eli Kulp, are bright and unusual, and the fresh breads — try the buckwheat cherry or roasted potato — are made in-house. We went for seconds on the pistachio escargot — no snails here, just a flaky, curlicue-shaped pastry with golden raisin cream and candied pistachios. It opened this week for breakfast and lunch now; dinner service will start next month.
308 Market St.
215-625-0988
www.highstreetonmarket.com

JULIE SHANNON
julie.shannon@metro.us

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Rosa Blanca

A diner fit for an Iron Chef

Jose Garces is replacing his now-closed Chifa (707 Chestnut St.) with this new Cuban diner, featuring a rotisserie in the kitchen, comfort food on the menu and a take-out section where you can pick up a bunch of pasteles, a traditional Puerto Rican meat pastry. But will it be open 24 hours like any good diner should? We'll find out around Oct. 21.

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Pop on by for dinner

Trend alert.
Inventive pop-up meals are bursting onto the Philly food scene.

Grab a seat at Tela's pop-up, returning to JG Domestic. / PROVIDED

If food follows fashion, then the proof is in the pop-up. You've probably heard the term used before as "pop-up shops," which are generally boutique-style collections that suddenly appear, either inside another store or as a street vendor, and then all too quickly dismantle. The Philly food scene is taking a page from fashion's book and generating a few pop-up dinners that usually involve a small amount of people sharing a table and getting the opportunity to sample a chef's most innovative dishes.

Among those who are doing the setting up and breaking down of short-lived but well-remembered meals is Tela's Market & Kitchen. Haven't heard of it yet? That may be because it hasn't opened, and won't open until sometime next month. But the soon-to-be full-scale market and kitchen has found a creative and admittedly alluring way to reach potential customers: pop-up dinners at JG Domestic.

On Sunday Tela's will host its second pop-up dinner at Iron Chef Jose Garces' JG Domestic in the Cira Centre.

"These pop-ups show off what we'll be doing at Tela's," says executive chef Chad Williams. "The items we use on the menu are a reflection of our products and will be available at the market."

Williams sees these types of meals as a way to not only flex some gastro muscles, but also as a chance for chefs to have fun and reach new eaters. It's a trend he hopes to see more of. "Philly is missing that whole pop-up culture," says Williams. "Anybody can throw a pop-up and get 20 people to come. When I was in San Francisco, there would be three or four of them each weekend."

We've noticed a few more of these dinners making it onto our radar, but we're with Williams — we'd love to see even more. The pop-ups provide "a comfortable, familial dining experience," as Williams puts it, but it also lets chefs meander down a completely new culinary path.

JULIA WEST
letters@metro.us

The scoop

What we know about Tela's:

- It's at 1833 Fairmount Ave.
- The opening is slated for some time in October. We were told possibly mid-October, but nothing more specific.
- The restaurant will serve breakfast and lunch daily, but executive chef Williams sees room for weekly chef's table dinners that will echo the pop-ups, with seating for 12 to 14 guests.
- Williams says they have plans to invite other local chefs into the weekly dinner mix.

Toast to fall

Put down that mango margarita. 'Tis the season for heavier cocktails — think aged bourbon, maple syrup and crisp apples. We scouted around the city for the best autumn drinks and found four to try right now. **RACHEL VIGODA**

Drunk pumpkins

The Twisted Tail calls itself a Bourbon House and Juke Joint, so we figured it'd be doing a little something special for National Bourbon Heritage Month. This week Bulleit takes center stage with a $21 flight including Frontier bourbon and rye. Prefer something on the sweeter side? Order a smooth Drunkin Punkin: Catdaddy Moonshine, Kraken rum, pumpkin puree, simple syrup, whiskey barrel-aged bitters and cream. **509 S. 2nd St., www.thetwistedtail.com**

Mediterranean twist

Barbuzzo's beverage manager, Terence Lewis, is whetting our appetites this fall with the Normandy. It's a blend of cinnamon-roasted apples muddled in a glass and mixed with a French apple brandy called Calvados, Cointreau and lemon juice. Your friendly Barbuzzo bartender will shake it, drain it and serve it up in a highball glass with a slice of green apple. **110 S. 13th St. www.barbuzzo.com**

Tip your hat

If you can wait a couple of weeks, Percy Street Barbecue is debuting a Dad's Hat Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey cocktail on Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. The locally-made rye is barrel aged with maple syrup, cranberry, Carpano and Fernet Branca and finished with black walnut bitters. Don't know your rye from your scotch? The distiller will be at Percy Street to chat about the cocktail and host a tasting of other Dad's Hat drinks for $30. **900 South St. www.percystreet.com**

On the wagon

Red Owl Tavern's new head bartender Paul Dellevigne doesn't think the drinkers should have all the fun. He just added a Temperance section to the menu with virgin options like Them Apples — apple juice shaken with spiced berry pepper syrup and mint — and the L&T, a sparkling blend of lavender syrup, lime juice and tonic water. **422 Chestnut St. www.redowltavern.com**

IF A PICTURE'S WORTH
A THOUSAND WORDS,
IMAGINE THE STORIES.

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Raise your stein

Beer. The drinking celebration is kind of a big deal around these parts.

The Cambridge is keeping it classy with Distinguished Oktoberfest in its outdoor courtyard. / THE CAMBRIDGE

An event that celebrates beer, set in one of the country's best beer-drinking cities? Sounds like a no-brainer.

Through early October, Philadelphia is packed with Oktoberfest festivities. Whether you prefer a subdued, "distinguished" celebration or a rowdy street party, you're sure to find somewhere to say "Prost!"

It wasn't always so, according to Chris Mullins, whose family owns McGillin's Olde Ale House, the oldest continuously operating tavern in the city. For years, Mullins says, Oktoberfest came and went with little fanfare in Philly.

"With our German heritage, I think that void was kind of a shame," he says.

McGillin's was one of the first to get the bandwagon rolling, starting its own Oktoberfest event more than 20 years ago, "when there were no German bars in Philly," Mullins says. The pub has been in the spirit since the end of August and is ready to culminate the month-long celebration on Oct. 6, coinciding with the Midtown Village Fall Festival. Seasonal brews like Yuengling Oktoberfest will flow from the taps and will be paired with German-inspired eats throughout the day.

If you're looking for something more intimate and exclusive, buy your ticket now for The Cambridge's Distinguished Oktoberfest, also on Oct. 6.

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to Oktoberfest

Head to Midtown Village Oct. 6 for the neighborhood's annual fall fest, and Oktoberfest at McGillin's. / MCGILLIN'S OLDE ALE HOUSE

Prost!

Options

Other Oktoberfest events include Xfinity Live's Xtoberfest on Sept. 28, with music, more than 150 beers from 40-plus brewers and Oktoberfest-style food, and the King of Prussia Beerfest Royale on Oct. 3 and 5 at the mall, where $45 gets you unlimited beer samples.

Manager Dan Tyrell says the South Street bar's classy take on the German holiday will be held in the outdoor courtyard and is intended to be a "much more relaxing kind of affair" than the beer-fueled block parties that typically mark Oktoberfest.

A $30 wristband will get you a traditional German beer stein, filled up twice (the outdoor beer station will have four Oktoberfest brews on tap), or two glasses of riesling, plus sausage, schnitzel and other German snacks.

After just missing Oktoberfest last year, Wursthaus Schmitz — Brauhaus Schmitz's sister site at Reading Terminal Market — is celebrating this year with a day-long event on Oct. 4 (which just so happens to be German-American Day in Philly) featuring German dancers, a strolling accordion player and, of course, "lots of sausage, pork and sauerkraut," says owner Doug Hager.

Wursthaus will pair up with Molly Malloy's to keep the beer flowing.

ROB SCOTT
letters@metro.us

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Pastry expert sweetens up the menu at Oyster House

Hot chef. Danielle Amabile tempts us with seasonal desserts.

Life is sweet for pastry chef Danielle Amabile. / PROVIDED

Oyster House's newest addition is pastry chef Danielle Amabile, who seemingly lives to give us what we love: dessert. The former sweets slinger for restaurateur Stephen Starr has made her way to the Center City seafood haunt. Keeping with the Oyster House tradition, Amabile is making her menu seasonal.

How's it going over at Oyster House?
Great. It's the second week of Restaurant Week so it's busy, but it's the fun kind of busy where you need to hit the ground running.

Some chefs seem to dread Restaurant Week. Do you like it?
It's a nice change of pace. It's a necessary evil, so to speak. I've been working them for a few years now and it's fast and furious but it gets a lot of people in the door. I've never gone out to Restaurant Week in the years I've worked it, and for no good reason. Probably just because I've been so busy.

But I do like to read a lot of other menus to see what other places can mass produce.

You worked at Alma de Cuba and Pod before this, right?
Yes, I was with Starr for about seven years.

How do you come up with a dessert menu that appropriately reflects each restaurant?
The menu at Oyster House practically writes itself because it's so seasonal. I find out what produce we have for the week and go from there. So if we have a ton of peaches, I need to think about what to do with peaches. But I love to cook from nostalgia. I ask servers what they would want for dessert on their birthday.

What's your favorite ingredient to use?
Tons. Right now I'm playing with this chocolate hazelnut creme. Everyone loves Nutella; that's no secret. This is similar but it isn't processed like Nutella is, so you just get this wonderful combination of hazelnut and chocolate.

JULIA WEST
letters@metro.us

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FESTIVAL

Art-Reach Fall Festival

Sept. 29, noon-4 p.m.
Ridgeland Mansion
Fairmount Park
400 Chamounix Dr.
$15-$50, 215-568-2115
www.art-reach.org
Art-Reach, a nonprofit that connects underserved audiences with the arts, is celebrating 27 years of service with food, music, dance and, of course, art! Art-Reach members Creative Kids Club Hoop-Starz and Germantown Recovery Choir will be performing, along with local musicians. Get your grub on at one of the many food trucks, and get in touch with your artistic side with art lessons from Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art.

Subaru Fall Festival

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Greensgrow Farms
2503 E. Firth St.
Free, 215-427-2702
www.greensgrow.org
Come hungry for harvest dishes from Mama's Meatballs and Farm Truck, and come ready to shop local craft vendors. There will be plenty of activities for the kiddies, like making apple stamp crafts and a tissue paper pumpkin. Grown-ups can learn about beekeeping, making apple cider and raising chickens. Chefs Rich Landau and Kate Jacoby from Vedge will be demonstrating organic gardening and signing their new cookbook.

PARTY

Philly Zombie Prom

Saturday, 8 p.m.
The Trocadero
1003 Arch St.
$11-$16, 215-922-6888
www.thetroc.com
Calling all wannabe zombies. This is your chance to pretend you're a character from "The Walking Dead" while getting your brain-eater dance moves on. Dave Ghoul and DJ Kiltboy will be spinning tunes to start off the night, and Mike Saga will be taking over the Balcony Bar. Don't know how to look like the best zombie? For $10, come with a fresh face and get "zombified" at one of the makeup stations. Live Not On Evil and The Young Werewolves will take the stage later in the night, and a zombie king and queen will be crowned at 11 p.m.

MUSIC

CHECK OUT EVEN MORE:

WWW.METRO.US/PHILADELPHIA/EVENTS

'Beethoven 9: Ode to Joy'

Tonight and Saturday, 8 p.m., Friday 2 p.m.; Verizon Hall, Kimmel Center, 300 S. Broad St.; $87-$185, 215-893-1999; www.kimmelcenter.org
Conductor Yannick Nezet-Seguin leads the Philadelphia Orchestra through Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with featured guest The Westminster Symphonic Choir. Songs include Beethoven's rarely heard "Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage" and the world premiere of Nico Muhly's "Bright Mass with Canons."

MUSIC

Opera Philadelphia

Saturday, 7 p.m.; Independence National Historical Park (Independence Mall); Free; 215-732-8400; www.operaphila.org
To celebrate the opening of its 2013-14 season, Opera Philadelphia is bringing out the big screen and showing a high-definition broadcast of Verdi's "Nabucco." Registration online is required. Bring your blankets and pack a picnic basket, or order a boxed sandwich meal in advance, before noon tomorrow. The meals can be picked up at the Independence Visitor Center's cafe after 3 p.m. Saturday. Prefer to decide what to eat when you get there? Food trucks will be lined up along Fifth Street, between Market and Chestnut streets.

KARAOKE

Dareoke

Tonight, 7-10 p.m.
DiBruno Bros.
1730 Chestnut St.
$20 online, $25 at the door, 215-387-8406
www.philarmh.org
Test our your singing skills at this benefit for Ronald McDonald House. The night includes beer tastings from Yards Brewing Co. and food from DiBruno Bros. Hang out with Rob Calbert from WMGK's "The John DeBella Morning Show" — and try not to embarrass yourself when you have the microphone in hand.

TOUR

The Great Tour

Saturday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Various locations
Free
www.phillyguides.org
Lace up your sneakers. This tour, led by the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides, visits more than 200 historic sites. If you don't want to walk for 12 hours, sign up for just a section of the tour and stick to one neighborhood. Register online to participate for this one, which takes place rain or shine.

JULIE SHANNON

FESTIVAL

Pour the Core: A Hard Cider Festival

Saturday, 1-5 p.m.; Philadelphia Navy Yard, 4747 S. Broad St.; $40 in advance, $65 at the door; www.pourthecore.com
Sample more than 30 ciders, including Angry Orchard, Woodchuck and a variety of imported versions and perries (cider made from pears) from England, Ireland and Sweden. Live music will be playing all afternoon, and food will be sold for an additional price. Designated driver tickets are being sold for $10 and complimentary shuttle bus service will be provided from SEPTA's Broad and Pattison station.

We want you

Upload your own events!

Have an upcoming event that you want to let Metro readers know about? Send an email to phillyevents@metro.us and we'll get it on our new listings website.

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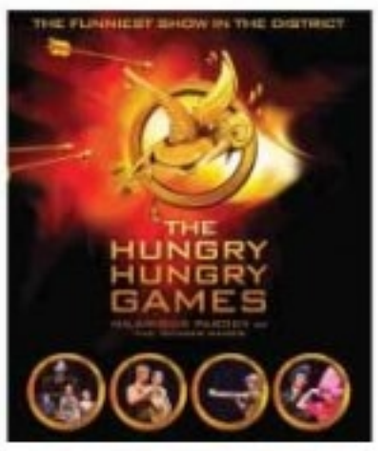

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Horoscope

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. If you take on additional responsibilities, you will come through with flying colors. Accept the inevitable.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Share your thoughts with the people who count. Get involved in something that will bring you a greater awareness of your community and beliefs.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Seek out the kind of entertainment that gives you a thrill or gets you thinking about a new adventure to pursue.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Judge quietly what is going on around you. Step in and make whatever slight changes are needed to prevent an error.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. When it comes to a business or partnership situation, negotiate a deal you can live with. Nothing is perfect, but at least you'll get a fair deal.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Your home is your castle, and the more you put into your place, the more you get back. Make changes that please everyone.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. You'll have to be innovative in the way you respond to others if you want to get things accomplished.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Take note of what others do, and you'll discover how to avoid a mistake that could lead to injury or insult. Focus on love, not anger and sorrow.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Take on extra work if it can show your expertise and superiority. Display your knowledge and push for a change that will make your world a better place.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Look at the big picture and diversify to get the most out of your assets. Networking will pay off.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Ask first when it comes to a big decision at work. If you don't, you will run into opposition that may leave you stranded.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Helping others will be gratifying and valuable down the line. You should go out of your way to help others, because you'll need to call in some favors.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

5		2						3
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		8		6	2		9	
	2				4			
		9	6		1	2		
			7				6	
	8		2	1		7		
	9			4		1		6
1						9		5

				9	2		7	
			8	3				6
9	8	3			1			
			2		3	6	4	
6				5				7
	4	1	9		7			
			7			8	2	5
2				4	8			
	7		5	2				

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

The not-so magnificent seven

Re: 'Guns in our cities' investigative series (Metro, week of Sept. 23) Wait: New York Gov. Cuomo pushed through legislation requiring magazines with no more than seven rounds before finding out whether they actually exist? And his fix for the problem is to allow the purchase of 10-round magazines, but trust New Yorkers to only put seven rounds in them? Seriously? But he wasn't grandstanding when he passed it, right? New Jersey has some of the toughest gun laws in the country, but at least they've been thought out and are enforceable.

BRUCE A. BENNETT, VIA EMAIL

A gun can be a girl's best friend

Re: 'A Girl & Gun "empowers" women shooters' (Metro, Sept. 25) I am for gun ownership and use by responsible citizens. The article was sarcastic toward women who use guns. The woman profiled in the article, Adrienne Nicotera (though she partially is right in getting certain women to stop being squeamish about using guns), is not the right representative of the empowerment of women by making gun use less male-dominated. She did not want one in the house until, ironically, her Army husband forced her to get over it and free herself to be more like a man and use a gun. If women think the gun industry is "using women" this way, the alternative is criminals making women the most prominent victims when it comes to crime, while women just sit at home and cry their mascara off and complain that they can't look too attractive in public.

LUCY MARTINEZ, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

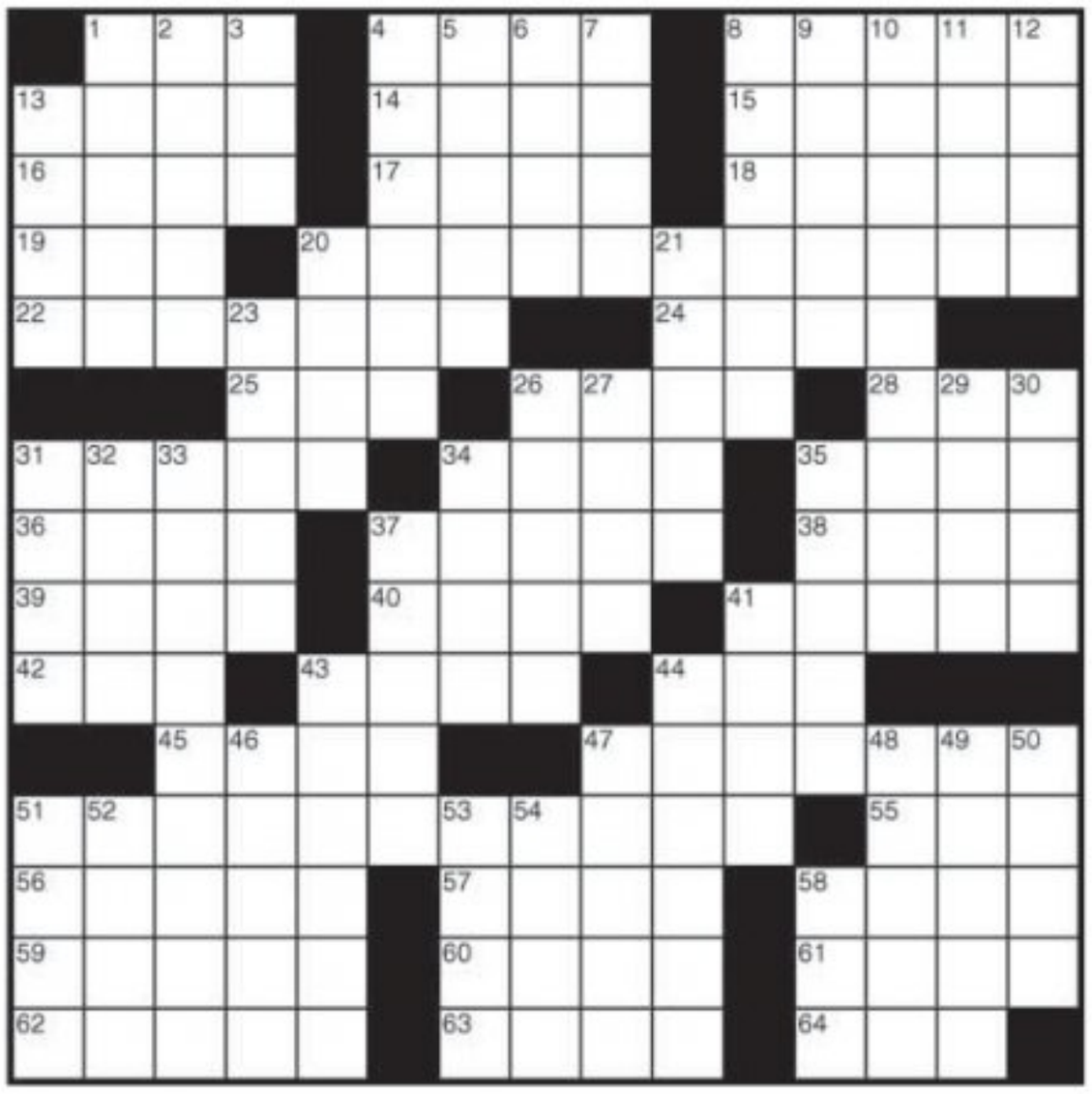
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Crossword

Across
1 Beauty pack
4 Neutral shade
8 Hut
13 Jules Verne captain
14 Do pull-ups
15 "Hasta —!"
16 Shepard or Greenspan
17 Hatchet handle
18 Ice structure
19 Big rigs' radios
20 Up, down, charm, or — —
22 Rodeo gear
24 Round tent
25 Funny-peculiar
26 A twist of —
28 Startled cry
31 Amber
34 Claptrap
35 Boundary line
36 Ottoman title
37 Trickles
38 Online journal
39 California's — Woods
40 Tenets
41 Deep fissure
42 Ms. Shriver
43 Tolerates
44 Make tracks
45 Aspirin target
47 Treaty subjects
51 Plant-eating dinosaur
55 Half-star movie
56 Sextant updated
57 S&L offerings
58 Warden's fear
59 Glacial ridge
60 Hockey feint
61 They need a PIN
62 Mannequin
63 Took a good look
64 Scientist's question

Down
1 Kind of toast
2 Amherst sch.
3 Oxford tutor
4 Reverberated
5 Online talks
6 Falling-out
7 A law — itself
8 Exclusive group
9 Be an omen of
10 After the date
11 Frankenstein's assistant
12 Secluded spot
13 Table salt
20 Trunk or torso
21 Joseph Campbell forte
23 Fish finder
26 Bubbles up
27 Is curious
29 They're easily bruised
30 Tavern inventory
31 Pack down
32 Water, in Tijuana
33 Whined softly
34 Second to none
35 Flowed back
37 Mortgages
41 What snobs put on
43 A Barrymore
44 Gave lodging
46 Rock tumbler stone
47 Slow down
48 Dame — Sitwell
49 Wide
50 Bane of Pvts.
51 Close violently
52 Pamplona runner
53 Office assistant
54 Heavy hydrogen discoverer
58 Uncooked

Yesterday's answer



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DeSean & DRC: Friends turned foes in Denver

NFL. Former teammates DeSean Jackson and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie expect a battle.

The task of keeping DeSean Jackson in check is one of the scariest endeavors in football. His lightning-quick speed can be overwhelming.

But when Jackson lines up this week against the Broncos, he expects to see a familiar face smiling back at him. Well, maybe not smiling.

Cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie is with Denver after spending two fruitless seasons in Philadelphia. The two still talk frequently, just not this week.

"I haven't talked to him," Jackson said. "I probably will mess around with him a little bit [later in the week]."

Jackson expects Rodgers-Cromartie to be the one assigned to him when the whistle blows.

"I'm sure he'll be on me," Jackson said of DRC. "He's a good friend of mine. We have a pretty good relationship. It will be a great opportunity for the both of us to compete against each other at a high level. He's a good player."

Rodgers-Cromartie is one of the fastest corners in the NFL.

He ran a 4.29 in the 40-yard dash in 2008 at the combine. Believe it or not, Jackson was actually timed slower, at 4.35 seconds.

"Overall, he's a good corner," Jackson said. "One of the top guys at his position, with his speed, agility, quickness and things like that. I definitely have to stay on him and pressure him in a way where he feels threatened."

This won't be the first time the two stars have battled, either. Jackson beat DRC, then playing for Arizona, for a 62-yard touchdown reception in the 2008 NFC Championship Game.

"I'm very familiar with him," Jackson said. "It will be a very competitive battle, with us both knowing each other — and us being friends, too. We'll get after it."

MICHAEL GREGER
michael.greger@metro.us

Jackson got the best of DRC on a 62-yard touchdown back in 2008. / GETTY IMAGES

3 SPORTS

Like a glove

Offense 'perfect' for Vick

Broncos coach John Fox had some kind words to say about Mike Vick yesterday. He called Chip Kelly's offense a perfect fit for him. "It fits him perfect," Fox said. "He's explosive ... he's got to have as many explosive runs as any quarterback in the league."

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METRO'S FANTASY GURU BREAKS IT ALL DOWN

NFL news

The Colts say they'll feature an even running back rotation between Trent Richardson and Ahmad Bradshaw. Don't buy it. They gave up a first-round pick for T-Rich because he's the one who's far more likely to get the hot hand they covet. Expect him to be the one leading this committee by a wide margin as soon as Week 5.

GOOD TIME TO FLEX SOME MUSCLES

If you have two functioning eyeballs, you know that the NFL is a passing league these days.

Thanks mostly to the gradual wave of rules that favor offenses, we're seeing unprecedented statistics from quarterbacks, receivers and pass-catching running backs. We're also seeing more and more committees in backfields.

So how do we adjust?

Think outside the flex. About five years ago, owners that were deep enough to use a starting running back in their flex spot had a huge advantage. Not anymore.

In half-PPR leagues this year, 15 of the top-25 players are wideouts. Seven are running backs and three are tight ends. Simply put, receivers in general are now scoring more than backs. Think about that when deciding on a close call in your flex.

Second receivers like Michael Floyd are flex fits. / GETTY IMAGES

Theory of relativity. With the way running games are now, there's even more relative value in an elite back. There are really only nine backs that aren't part of a committee: Adrian Peterson, LeSean McCoy, Matt Forte, Doug Martin, Marshawn Lynch, Jamaal Charles, Maurice Jones-Drew, Darren McFadden and DeMarco Murray. The rest of the 23 "starting" backs are going to lose snaps, lose passing-down work and/or lose goal-line chances.

Taking shots. The other reason wideouts can be so effective in a flex spot is because the No. 2 or 3 guys get chances. While we know a second back like Ben Tate is capped at 12 touches, a second receiver like Michael Floyd is prone to go off at any time. We saw it in Week 3, when Santonio Holmes ripped through the Bills and Denarius Moore got lucky against the Broncos. There are more big plays in the passing game and more chances for fluky yet monstrous stat lines.

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NFL. Buccaneers bench QB Freeman, Glennon new starter

Josh Freeman is out after just three inefficient weeks of football.

Buccaneers coach Greg Schiano announced yesterday that the team is sitting Freeman in favor of rookie Mike Glennon. It appears the Bucs are committed to Glennon for the remainder of the season.

"We're moving forward with Mike as our quarterback," Schiano said yesterday in a press conference. "That's our plan. [Bucs GM] Mark [Dominik] and I believe this gives us the best chance to win today. We've lost eight of nine games and haven't played particularly well on offense."

Tampa Bay is 0-3 and boast the second-worst offense in the NFL in both total yards (846) and passing yards (524). Freeman is 43-of-94 for 571 yards, with a 59.3 QB rating.

Freeman is out. / GETTY IMAGES

Schiano indicated that Tampa Bay would entertain trade offers for Freeman. For now, he'll remain as the team's backup quarterback. The NFL trade deadline is five weeks away. METRO

NFL

Player of the Week awards

Peyton Manning was named the AFC Player of the Week after torching Oakland. Kansas City's Justin Houston took home the conference's Defensive Player of the Week award.

In the NFC, awards were given to the Saints' Jimmy Graham on offense and Carolina's Greg Hardy on defense. METRO

Browns

Hoyer gets starting nod

Cleveland coach Rob Chudzinski announced that Brian Hoyer will remain the team's starting quarterback this week.

Hoyer (30-of-54, three touchdowns) hasn't been guaranteed the job the rest of the season. METRO

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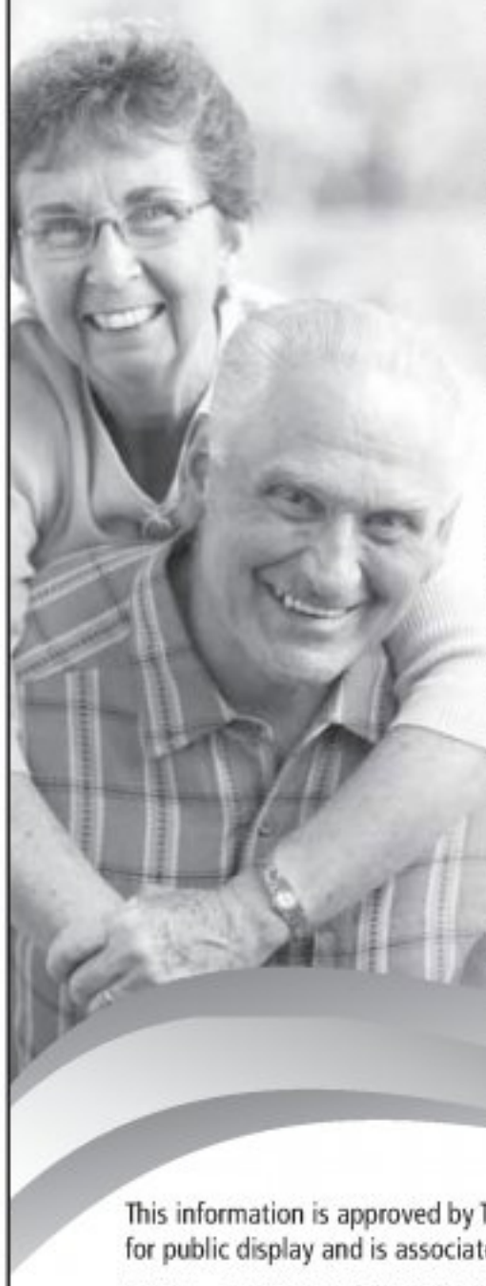

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Hugh Douglas to use defense of 'rough sex'

NFL. The former Eagles defensive end was arrested on assault charges after attacking a woman in a hotel.

Douglas was arrested Tuesday.
GETTY IMAGES

Former Eagle Hugh Douglas is making negative headlines again, this time it could cost him legally.

Douglas, who spent six seasons in Philadelphia, was arrested Tuesday on assault charges. He allegedly attacked a woman at a hotel in Hartford, Conn. According to court documents obtained by WFSB 3 in Hartford, Douglas "grabbed her neck" and "slammed her into the walls several times." The former NFL player told police the accuser's injuries occurred during "rough sex."

He is being charged with third-degree assault and second-degree strangulation. He was arraigned and will appear in court on Oct. 21.

This comes six weeks after Douglas was fired from ESPN after he got intoxicated at a party and got into a fight with a network colleague. He reportedly accosted the man and yelled racial slurs at him.

Douglas was the 16th overall pick in the 1995 NFL Draft.

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Flyers. Giroux passes first test in preseason game against Devils

Flyers captain Claude Giroux defied the critics and played Tuesday night.

Giroux, who is recovering from finger surgery, played 40 minutes against the New Jersey Devils. He didn't record a goal in the 2-1 loss, but he looked capable of playing at an elite level. Giroux won 9 of 11 face-offs.

"He feels great. I think the more he continues to play the more comfortable he'll get," said coach Peter Laviolette. METRO

Injured Flyer

Voracek out after hitting goal post

Jakub Voracek left Tuesday's game with an upper-body injury. Flyers GM Paul Holmgren doesn't believe it is serious.

Voracek was injured on a breakaway when he was hooked by Bryce Salvador. He collided with the post and was awarded a penalty shot. METRO

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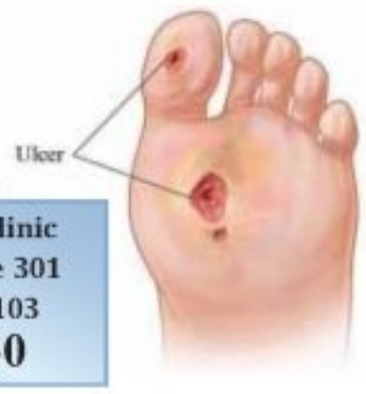

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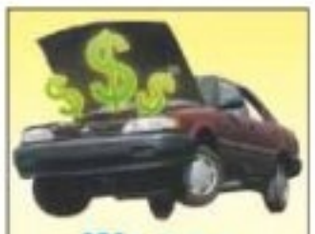

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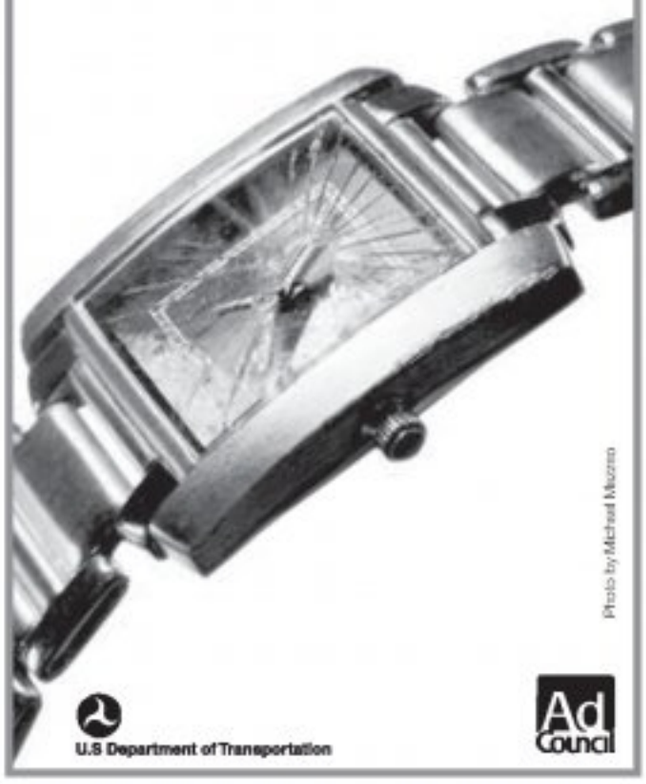

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